



# Cary Woman's Club

Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

March 2016

"Serving Our Community • Sharing Our Time and Talents"



## President's Message ~ Lois Nixon



In February, we celebrated the birthdays of Presidents. And we start March off celebrating the birthday of **Dr. Seuss with Read Across America Day!** Let's join clubwomen across the country during the week of **March 2** to celebrate Read Across America, a nationwide reading extravaganza.

Share your love of reading with children in our community, your grandchildren, your neighbors, or with a special visit to a school or tutoring site.

You can also contribute to our club's donation of books for disadvantaged students at Kingswood Elementary. Let's aim for 100% member



participation in this activity. Be sure to send photos and stories about your part in Read Across America Day to our Education CSP co-chairs, **Silvia Barba** or **Deborah Lynch** so they can report our club's participation to GFWC.

As Dr. Seuss said, "You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child."

Along with the many former teachers in our club, I have always been an advocate for Public Education, as I come from a family of educators. My mother was a school lunch dietician for our local school system, and served on the Board of Education for many years. In my family there are three retired educators and seven in classrooms today as I write this.

I am looking forward to learning about a new educational opportunity in our Club program this month, presented by new member, **Anne Mackie**. And, I hope we can all be advocates for adequate funding of public education, rather than the 47<sup>th</sup> place in the country where North Carolina now resides. It is

sobering to realize that our state spends at least four times more annually on each prisoner than on each public school student!

Former President of Harvard University, Derek Bok had it right when he said, "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance."

March is also **Women's History Month**, an annual recognition that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society, and March 8 is International Women's Day. So *celebrate* yourself!!

The Cary Woman's Club can be proud of many contributions through our history (which can be found on our website) including the establishment in 1951 of the Cary Library, organizing the Cary XYZ Club (for seniors), and giving thousands of dollars in college scholarships to high school students and mature women.

The 2016 theme of Women's History Month is *Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government*. Take time to thank a woman working in government or as an elected official! ~ **Lois Nixon, President**

Please arrive a bit early for the meeting this one time ~ 9:45 to start ~ to assist with an informal survey on what you want to happen in the club next year. Your input is important!

## MEETING LOCATION

**Page-Walker Arts & History Center**

119 Ambassador Loop, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor,  
Downtown Cary, 27513

**Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

9:30 a.m. (Coffee & Social)

9:45 a.m. (Special Early Program & Business Meeting)

## March's Guest Speaker: Education

"The First 2,000 Days" will be the topic on March 10. **Anne Mackie**, a new member of our club, will present a program prepared by the NC Early Childhood Foundation about how we can help to create the best outcomes in education, health and economic well-being for everyone in NC ([ncecf@buildthefoundation.org](mailto:ncecf@buildthefoundation.org)).



Why the First 2,000 Days? There are only 2,000 days between the time a baby is born and when he or she will begin kindergarten. During that time brain architecture is forming, creating either a strong or weak foundation for all future learning. Child development is a dynamic,



## Education Program *(continued)*

interactive process that is not predetermined. It occurs in the context of relationships, experiences and environments. Harvard University neuroscientist Jack Shonkoff puts it this way ... "brains are built not born."

~ *Deborah Lynch, Education CSP Co-Chair*

## Education CSP

We have received the book wish list from the Media Specialist at Kingswood Elementary, and we are in the process of requesting \$250 from the Grants Fund to add to the "change for books" donated by our members. Please remember to bring your "change for books" containers to



the meeting and help fill the "change for books" jar.

We are also in contact with the Trustees regarding the amount of this year's scholarship(s), and we anticipate being able to make an announcement at the March general meeting. ~ Thank you! *Deborah Lynch, Education CSP Co-Chair*

*Volunteers: "We make a living by what we get ... but we make a life by what we give." ~ Winston Churchill*

## After-Meeting Luncheon

Ladies ... join us for lunch after the March meeting: Alpaca Peruvian Charcoal Chicken, 9575 Chapel Hill Road, Morrisville (Park Place Shopping Center, near Wendy's and Food Lion), 919-378-9259. See you there. ~ *Silvia Barba*



## April's "Spring Fling" Fashion Show



The "Spring Fling" Fashion Show & Lunch will be **Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**, from **11am ~ 2pm**, and will be held once again at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 600 Walnut St., Cary. Deadline for purchasing tickets will be April 11. Fashions will be presented by *StyleFinder Boutique* (*Helping Women 35+ Rediscover Their Style*). Please put this on your calendars. Our delicious menu will be the same as last year, and we



also plan to have music.

Proceeds will benefit our Cary Woman's Club Charities. **Tickets are \$20 each.** When you buy a ticket, please let us know if you actually plan to attend the show, so we can prepare properly. Contact Dorothy Schmelzeis for more details ... and watch soon for an email with tickets and a special flier!

*StyleFinder Boutique* in Raleigh is a unique resource for fashion and style designed exclusively for women over 35. Here you'll find everything you need to dress and accessorize fashionably, effortlessly and affordably.

~ *Dorothy Schmelzeis, Ways & Means Chair & 3<sup>rd</sup> VP*

## Ways and Means Newsy News

Many thanks to all who participated in the Cary City Barbeque Fundraiser. It was good to see so many of you at the restaurant. We are awaiting the results.

I thought some of you might be interested in going as a group to see "*Made Especially for You by Willie Kay*"

at the NC Museum of History between March 12 and March 17, an exhibition of gowns made by the African-American dressmaker for Raleigh brides and debutantes for decades. ~ *Dorothy Schmelzeis, Ways & Means Chair & 3<sup>rd</sup> VP*

## Conservation: Celebrate Arbor Day in Cary

**Cary's Annual Arbor Day Celebration**, will be celebrated on the Page-Walker lawn on **Sunday, March 20**, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

There will be educational exhibits, free tree seedlings, a tree identification scavenger hunt, and a special tree planting. This family-



friendly event also features entertainment and crafts for kids. And, you will take home a free tree and enjoy one-on-one time with a certified arborist.

Members of the Cary Woman's Club have been invited to assist with the distribution of tree seedlings.

Contact **Lois Nixon** if you want to volunteer.

*"Life without love is like a tree without blossoms or fruit." ~ Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931) "The Vision"*

## District VI Arts Festival and District Awards



Mary Derrick and I had a long day at the District VI Arts Festival on February 13. We also got

several good ideas about various programs to share later.

We won one club award – for *Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention*, for all our work with InterAct.

And **Willa Brigham** and **Lillian Smith** each got one First Place for their Arts entries (188 entries in all!). Congratulations ladies – now on to the State Arts Festival on March 5.

Willa's award was for her stunning mixed media – the woman's head, with yarn hair and button-neck collar (see article/picture below).

Lillian's photo of some of you decorating the Cary Giving Tree won first in the Volunteers in Action category!

There are several awards that were not presented at the District level, just the state level, so we will see. State Convention is April 27-30 at Atlantic Beach Doubletree Inn – formerly Blockade Runner, now newly renovated.

They did not display the newsletter or yearbook entries, so I really don't know what the first-place winners looked like: Newsletter (Wake Forest Woman's Club – large club; and Zebulon Woman's Club – small club); Yearbook, Woman's Club of Raleigh. They did not announce runner-ups. I think they will send those out, and I hope our Club name is on that list. The only comment was that they encourage clubs to put sayings and quotes in the newsletter (which **Vicki Jeter** does in every CWC newsletter), and one club won a drawing for a book of quotes for that purpose.

I must compliment **Mary Derrick**, the member we share with the Woman's Club of Raleigh, who is also the District Public Issues CSP Chair this year. One of her easiest duties is to lead the pledge to the American flag and the NC flag at the beginning of each meeting. (That will be my job next year, so I was taking notes today! :)

A slight glitch developed when they realized there were no flags in the room to salute! So one creative clubwoman in the back of the room, pulled up a photo of the American flag on her iPhone, and Mary led the pledge without missing a beat, and we all saluted the iPhone image. Ditto with the NC flag.

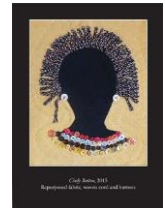
Lesson learned, I'm going to get my own little set of flags and carry them to every meeting!

~ **Lois Nixon, President**

## Arts CSP

Congratulations from all of us to **Willa Brigham**, Arts CSP Chair, for her art piece, *Cindy Button*, which won first place in the District VI competition. "*Cindy Button*, 2015; Repurposed fabric, woven cord and buttons."

Also, Willa's recent cruise ship adventure on Royal Caribbean's *Navigator of the Seas*® was a great success. She taught students how to make fiber arts. ~ Contact: **Willa Brigham**, Arts CSP Chair



## "History-of-Tea" Party ~ Will Honor Emeritus Members & Presidents

Mark your calendars for a special event ... on Thursday, May 12, we will show our appreciation for our past Cary Woman's Club Presidents and Emeritus Members for tea and refreshments at our

special "History-of-Tea" Party during our May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Co-chairs of the May Tea Committee are: **Philomina Vaidya** and **Nell Meece**.

## Chrysalis Club at Woman's Prison (Public Issues)



Cary Woman's Club put on a program for the Chrysalis Club at the NC Correc-

tional Institution for Women (Women's Prison) in Raleigh on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>. In attendance from CWC were **Priscilla Keating**, **Lois Nixon**, **Karen Fiumara**, **Willa Brigham**, **Lillian Smith** and **Jane Suppa**.

In charge of the program was **Willa Brigham**, who did a fantastic job telling stories, teaching the ladies

several different dances, giving inspirational advice and interactive discussion.

The residents enjoyed our food of fruit platters, cheese and cracker trays, and cupcakes. They appreciated the food, fellowship and parting gift of adult coloring books. This was a great learning experience for us, and we enjoyed getting to know the ladies and look forward to doing this again in the future.

Before we left, a Chrysalis members invited us to their volunteer dinner on April 14. She proudly stated, "We serve you, and it is really a nice dinner." It's for all the volunteers who go to the prison, to include the MATCH volunteers, who would include **Karen Fiumara** and **Philomena Vaidya**. ~ Thank you so much! **Priscilla Keating**, Public Issues CSP Chair



## Guess Who?

**1** Attended Furman University  
A teacher  
25 years as a Clubwoman

**2** Born in Rochester NY  
A registered nurse  
3 children, 2 grandchildren

**3** Graduated from Arizona Univ.  
3 grandchildren  
Corporate commercial  
lending

## The Caring Place: April 29<sup>th</sup>

### ~ 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Auction, Buffet & Dancing

Basic information on this important auction is below. Friday, April 29, 2016, at 6 p.m., at Prestonwood Country Club, 300 Prestonwood Pkwy., Cary. Thanks! ~ *Mercedes Auger*, Board of Directors & Advisory Board of The Caring Place (Community Volunteer)

We are excitedly preparing for our BEST Auction Benefit ever! Take a peek at some of our wonderful auction items on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TheCaringPlace/>.

Reserve your tickets now at <http://www.thecaringplace.org/live-auction-reservations/>. Event proceeds will support the families

served by The Caring Place, so we look forward to seeing you there!

Mission: The Caring Place teaches homeless, working families with children life skills for attaining independent living while providing short-term housing and support to address their individual needs.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 622, Cary, NC 27512. 919-462-1800 with questions about this event.

The Caring Place, Inc. is exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

## Public Issues: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual ALICE FEST

**M**ary Derrick, Public Issues Chair for District VI, notes that this event relates to Women's History Month. Your attendance would be considered an education effort under the Public Issues CSP. Make it a Girls' Afternoon Out, and carpool to Durham to see these movies. Discuss this with your friends and get a group to go. Great way to support women's events! If some of you attend this, please let us know, because it would be a great article for our newsletter or a brief report at our April meeting.

~ *Lois Nixon*

The **5<sup>th</sup> Annual ALICE FEST** (Films by Women. For Everyone.) Named for Alice Guy-Blaché

(1873–1968) a filmmaking pioneer and one of the first film directors; born in Paris – is Sunday, **March 13<sup>th</sup>** at Durham's Full Frame Theater on the historic American Tobacco Campus, 318 Blackwell St., Durham 27701.



ALICE FEST is a film festival presented each March in recognition of Women's History Month. The festival showcases curated and submitted work by women with a special emphasis on women's stories and achievements. ALICE FEST features short documentary films, experimental films, animation, multimedia

projects, narrative films and works-in-progress from a diverse group of female filmmakers from all over the world along with half of the program from local filmmakers.

Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Films begin at 2:00 p.m. and end at 5:00 p.m. Admission is **FREE** but reservations are required due to limited seating. RSVP to [infoAliceFest@gmail.com](mailto:infoAliceFest@gmail.com) to reserve a seat.

More info: <http://alicefest.org/>. ~ Contact Vivian Bowman-Edwards, ALICE FEST, web: [alicefest.org](http://alicefest.org), email: [infoAliceFest@gmail.com](mailto:infoAliceFest@gmail.com).

This is sponsored by NC Women United (NCWU), a 501(c)(3) organization.

## 2016 Primary: Preparing for Election Day, March 15

Information for this story was contributed by Brent Ducharme of the UNC Center for Civil Rights at the UNC School of Law. Printed in CaryCitizen.

**H**ere's how you can prepare for the election on March 15, 2016.

Early Voting: Under North Carolina law, the last day to register for the March 15 primary was Feb. 19, 2016.

If you failed to register by that date, you can still vote during the early voting period, which lasts from March 3 to March 12, 2016.

During early voting, you can go to an early voting site,

register and vote in one stop. There is no same-day registration on Election Day (March 15). During the early voting period, registered voters can cast a ballot at any of the designated early voting sites in their county. Check the Wake County Board of Elections for information on where early voting sites are located and when they will be open.

If you plan to vote on Election Day (Tuesday, March

## Primary Voting *(continued)*

15), you must vote at your assigned precinct. You can check your registration and find your polling place at the NC State Board of Elections website.



On March 15, 2016, the polls will be open from 6:30 am until 7:30 pm.

All voters will be asked to present a photo

ID. Voters who arrive to the polls without an acceptable ID can still cast a provisional ballot.

Voters with questions or concerns can call the national Election Protection Hotline at 1-888-OUR-VOTE (1-888-687-8683). The hotline is available during early voting and will be staffed by volunteer attorneys and trained UNC Law students on Election Day.

## Answers to ... Guess Who

1. Lib Johnson    2. Priscilla Keating    3. Mary-Mel Kroeger



## Save Education Coupons



Each **Box Tops Education Coupon** is worth 10 cents for us. This does not cost us anything and is a big help.

Coupons can be found on Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Land of Lakes, Scott products, reams of copy paper and

many other products we use every day.

Cut them off and put them in the box at the check-in nametag table. These will benefit the **Tammy Lynn Center** for autistic and handicapped children, [www.tammylynncenter.org](http://www.tammylynncenter.org).

**P**lease remember our goal is to **Double Our Membership**. To accomplish that, every member would need to invite one guest (potential member) during the year. I have found that the greatest source of new members in our Club comes from the women who we, as members, already know. The more

## Membership Counts!

members we have, the more the Club can achieve. Take out your homeowner's association list, church directory, lists of members of other clubs you are in, and any source you can think of. Write down the name, address and other contact info of a few women whom you would like to see in the CWC.

Bring the information to me at each meeting or email it to me. I will reach out to each one with information about the Club and an invitation to visit. Everyone needs to help grow the membership!

~ **Jane Suppa**, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Membership

## March 2016 Dates

March 2 ~ Read Across America begins

March 3 to March 12 ~ Early Voting Period

March 13 ~ Daylight Saving Time begins ~ *Spring Forward with Your Clocks*

**March 15 ~ Primary Election Day**, polls open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm

March 15 ~ Basketball March Madness begins

March 15 ~ Ides of March (Ides is the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month for March, May, July, October. For other months it's on the 13<sup>th</sup>.) Julius Caesar was warned to "beware of the Ides of March." He didn't and was stabbed to death on the Ides of March in 44 BC.

March 17 ~ St. Patrick's Day

March 20 ~ Palm Sunday

**March 20 ~ First Day of Spring**

March 25 ~ Good Friday

**March 27 ~ Easter Sunday**



"Your happiness is intertwined with your outlook on life." ~ **Anonymous**

|| Cary Woman's Club Newsletter  
|| P.O. Box 918 ■ Cary, NC 27512-0918  
|| President: *Lois Nixon*  
|| 1st VP (Membership): *Jane Suppa*  
|| 2nd VP (Programs & Reports): *Karen Fiumara*  
|| 3rd VP (Ways & Means): *Dorothy Schmelzeis*  
|| Recording Secretary & Yearbook:  
||     *Silvia Barba*  
|| Corresponding Secretary: *Mary-Mel Kroeger*  
|| Treasurer: *Maryanne Olsen*  
|| Newsletter Editor: *Vicki Jeter*  
|| Publication Deadline: 24<sup>th</sup> of each month  
|| Website Liaison: *Susan Abbott*  
|| Website: [www.carywomansclub.com](http://www.carywomansclub.com)



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